

TWO SPECIES OF THE GENUS GYMNOSPORIA
(CELASTRACEAE) IN SOUTH AMERICA

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Four genera, Celastrus L., Maytenus Molina, Gymnosporia Benth. & Hook., f., and Tricerna Liebm., comprise a closely related group, difficult to characterize, yet each has distinctive features. Tricerna, with seven species formerly placed in Maytenus, has been recognized by Lundell, Wrightia 4: 158--159. 1971.

The genera Celastrus, Gymnosporia and Maytenus were considered distinct by Ding Hou although closely related. In his revision of the genus Celastrus, Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 42: 215--291. 1955, the three genera are contrasted in Pl. 31.

Since Maytenus has been reported from Africa, it is not surprising that Gymnosporia occurs in South America, but it has not been recorded. The two species, G. Gentryi and G. magnifolia, have inflorescences and capsules typical of Gymnosporia.

GYMNOSPORIA GENTRYI Lundell, sp. nov. -- Arbor, 10 m.; ramuli novelli minute puberuli vel glabrati, striati, graciles vel crassiusculi; folia minute puberula vel glabrata, petiolata, petiolo 4--7 mm. longo, crassiusculo, canaliculato; lamina chartacea vel subcoriacea, lanceolata vel lanceolato-elliptica, 8.5--16 cm. longa, 2.5--6 cm. lata, apice obtusiuscula vel acuminata, basi late acuta vel rotundata et acutiuscula, revoluta, margine integra, nervis secundariis 4 vel 5, acute ascendentibus; inflorescentia sessilis vel subsessilis, axillaris, dense minute puberula, dichotome furcata, ad 3 cm. longa; pedicelli crassi, elongati, 3--4 mm. longi; parviflora; flores 4- vel 5-meri; sepalae late ovata, ad 0.7 mm. longa, 0.9 mm. lata; petala imbricata, ovato-elliptica vel elliptico-oblonga, 2.3--2.8 mm. longa, 2--2.2 mm. lata, apice rotundata; stamina parva; filamenta ca. 0.6 mm. longa, tenuis; antherae ovatae, ca. 0.4 mm. longae, apice rotundatae, basi bilobatae; stylus crassus, 0.6--0.9 mm. longus; stigma subglobosum; ovarium glabrum, pauciovulatum.

Colombia: Nariño, La Planada, Salazar Finca 7 km. above Ricaurte, premontane wet forest, alt. 1750 m., Nov. 28, 1981, Al Gentry et al. 35068 (holotype, LL), tree, 10 m., flowers white, fruits green.

A fruiting collection which appears to be conspecific, was made in Peru: Province Alto Amazonas, Andoas, Rio Pastaya near Ecuador border, alt. 210 m., Aug. 14, 1980, Al Gentry, R. Vasquez & N. Jaramillo 29652 (LL), tree, 20 m., fruits green. It has immature fruits 2- or 3-celled, with 1 erect arillate seed in each

cell. The fruits are depressed-globose, with the valves rounded and subobreniform.

Both collections are trees whereas Loesener describes M. magnifolia as "scandens."

With its entire leaves with only 4 or 5 rather sharply ascending lateral veins, with very, very minute hairs covering stems, inflorescences and apparently both surfaces of the leaves, together with the long rather stout pedicels, petals up to almost 3 mm. long, and elongate styles topped by subglobose lobed stigmas, M. Gentryi is a well-marked taxon. It has smaller leaves than M. magnifolia, shorter pedicels, and essentially sessile inflorescences. Flowers of M. magnifolia are not available for comparison.

GYMNOSPORA MAGNIFOLIA (Loes.) Lundell, comb. nov. Maytenus ? magnifolia Loes., Verhandlungen des Botanischen Vereins der Provinz Brandenburg 48: 176. 1907. Loesener's description follows:

MAYTENUS (?) MAGNIFOLIA Loes. n. sp.; scandens; ramulis teretibus, sub lente valida pulverulento-papillosis, hornotinis 2,5--3 mm crassis; stipulis minutis callosis triangularibus; foliis permagnis, breviter, ca. 6 mm longis, petiolatis, oblongis vel oblongo-ellipticis, membranaceis vel tenuiter chartaceis, integris vel integerrimis, basi sublate cuneato-obtusis, apice, ut videtur, obtusis vel obtusiusculis, margine i. s. anguste sed manifeste revoluta, i. s. griseo-subolivaceis, concoloribus, 18--25 cm longis, 6--9 cm latis, costa medius supra subplana vel vix prominula, medio secundum totam longitudinem elevato-unistriolata, subtus prominente, nervis lateralibus utrinque ca. 6--8 principalibus, ad apicem versus arcuatis, supra vix prominulis et medio longitudinaliter et leviter obsoleteque unisulcatis subtus prominentibus, commissuris in costa subperpendicularibus inter sese et cum hac coniunctis; inflorescentiis in foliorum axillis solitariis, fructiferis gracilibus et laxiusculis, ca. quater dichotome furcatis, pedunculo brevi vel brevissimo, 2--5 mm longo, ipso gemmula terminato, axibus secundariis paullo longioribus, usque 14 mm longis ulterioribus manifestis, graditim brevioribus, omnibus sub lente valida pulverulento-papillosis, pedicellis ultimis usque 6 mm longis, iuxta basin biphyllatis; calyce sub fructu 4-mero vel 4--5 (?) mero, capsulis i. v. luteis, subobreniformibus vel obsolete trilobis, 2- vel 3-locularibus et 2- vel 3-valvatis, valvis ambitu subobreniformibus, ca. 8 mm longis, 10 mm latis, extrinsecus rugulosis, loculis monospermis, semine e basi erecto, subellipsoideo, ca. 5 mm longo, 3 mm lato, plane arillo i. s. griseo-brunneo apice aperto et varie profundeque lacerato incluso, testa atro-brunnea, nitida vel nitidissima, obsolete rugulosa vel sublaevi, albumine copioso, embryo magno, viridi, cotyledonibus foliaceis, ovalibus, radícula infera.

Amazonas: am Flusse Jurua Miry (E. Ule n. 5721).